

February 26, 2008

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear, Chair

SUBJECT: **REVISED MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA**

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

Please park in the garage underneath the building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

c: MAG Management Committee

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL  
REVISED TENTATIVE AGENDA  
February 27, 2008**

	<b><u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u></b>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Call to the Audience</u>  An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on agenda items posted for action will be provided the opportunity at the time the item is heard.	3. Information.
4. <u>Executive Director's Report</u>  The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	4. Information and discussion.
5. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u>  Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items. Consent items are marked with an asterisk (*).	5. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

**ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT\***

**MINUTES**

*5A. <u>Approval of the January 30, 2008 Meeting Minutes</u>	5A. Review and approval of the January 30, 2008 meeting minutes.
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**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS****\*5B. Project List for the Arizona Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School Program**

A total of \$1,100,000 statewide is available for projects through the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) Safe Routes to School Program. The program provides funding to public and non-profit agencies for projects that improve road safety and encourage more grade K-8 children to walk or bike to their neighborhood schools. In response to the ADOT call for projects announced in November 2007, 18 project applications were submitted to ADOT from the MAG region. The ADOT application review process stipulates that Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Councils of Governments must recommend a ranked list of projects to ADOT by February 28, 2008. The MAG Transportation Safety Committee reviewed all project proposals, and generated a ranked list for consideration by ADOT. The MAG Management Committee recommended the submission of the ranked list. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**\*5C. Project Changes: Amendments, and Administrative Modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and FY 2008 Arterial Life Cycle Program, and Material Cost Changes to the ADOT Program**

The FY 2008-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update were approved by the MAG Regional Council on July 25, 2007, and the FY 2008 Arterial Life Cycle Program (ALCP) was approved by the MAG Regional Council on June 27, 2007. Since that time, there have been requests from member agencies to modify projects in the programs. The proposed Highway administrative modifications and amendments to the FY 2008-2012 TIP are listed in Table A, administrative modifications to the ALCP are listed in Table B, and proposed Transit amendments are listed in Table C. An administrative modification does not require a conformity determination. In addition, Table D

5B. Approval of the ranked list of projects for submission to the Arizona Department of Transportation for the Safe Routes to School Program.

5C. Approval of amendments and administrative modifications to the FY 2008-2012 MAG TIP, the FY 2008 Arterial Life Cycle Program, the Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update as appropriate, and a material cost change to the ADOT Program as shown in the attached tables.

notes the material cost change to the ADOT Program. The material cost changes are related to cost increases. The right of way project for I-10: Sarival Road to Dysart Road increased by \$500,000 and the construction project for the US-60: I-10 to Loop 101 increased by \$7,500,000. The Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of the project changes provided to them at the January 31, 2008 meeting. The MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the changes. This item is on the February 20, 2008 Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5D. Consultant Selection for the Statewide Transportation Survey

On December 19, 2007, the MAG Regional Council approved conducting a public opinion survey to measure voter attitudes and preferences in addressing regional and statewide transportation mobility needs, and that the FY 2008 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget be amended to include \$55,000 for the survey. MAG issued a Request for Proposals to develop and conduct an independent, scientifically valid voter opinion survey. In response, six proposals were received. A multi-agency review team reviewed the proposals and recommended to MAG the selection of WestGroup Research to conduct the survey. In addition, the team recommended that if negotiations with WestGroup are not successful, that MAG be directed to negotiate with its second choice, Behavior Research Center. The MAG Management Committee and the Executive Committee recommended approval of the selection. This item is on the February 20, 2008 Transportation Policy Committee agenda. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5D. Approval of the selection of WestGroup Research to conduct the Statewide Transportation Survey for an amount not to exceed \$55,000. If negotiations with WestGroup Research are not successful, that MAG negotiate with its second choice, Behavior Research Center, to conduct the survey.

\*5E. The Interstate 10 - Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study

Since May 2006, the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study has been underway for establishing a mobility framework for a significant portion of Maricopa County west of the White Tank Mountains. In August and September 2007, the Management Committee, the Transportation Policy Committee, and Regional Council were provided a briefing on the results and potential recommendations generated on the project. The Transportation Review Committee and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the findings of the Study. This item is on the February 20, 2008 agenda of the Transportation Policy Committee. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5F. MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan 2008 Update

The MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan 2008 Update was developed in collaboration with representatives from 70 agencies, municipalities, companies and residents. The plan addresses progress made since the implementation of the plan in 2007. It also proposes five new strategies. This activity is undertaken in response to a federal requirement affecting all applicants of Section 5310, Section 5316 and Section 5317. The MAG Human Services Technical Committee, the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee, and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the update. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5G. Interim Appointment of the Vice Chair of the Transportation Policy Committee to Fill the Unexpired Term (June 2008)

In June 2006, Councilwoman Bilsten, Phoenix, was appointed as the Chair of the Transportation

5E. (1) Accept the findings of the Interstate 10-Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study as the surface and public transportation framework for the Hassayampa Valley; (2) adopt the traffic interchange locations for the Interstate-10/Papago Freeway from SR-303L/Estrella Freeway to 459th Avenue; (3) adopt a two-mile traffic interchange spacing policy for new freeway facilities within the Hassayampa Valley with appropriate planning for non-access crossings of the freeway facilities to facilitate local transportation movements; (4) adopt a new functional classification as a parkway, recognizing the Arizona Parkway as a type of parkway with unique operating characteristics for congestion and air quality planning purposes; (5) accept the findings and implementation strategies as described in the study for inclusion as illustrative corridors in the Regional Transportation Plan; and, (6) recommend the affected jurisdictions within the Hassayampa Valley study area incorporate this study's recommendations into future updates of their general plans.

5F. Approval of the MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan 2008 Update.

5G. Interim appointment of Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, as the Vice Chair of the TPC to fill the unexpired portion of the two-year term (June 2008).

Policy Committee (TPC) and Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, was appointed Vice Chair for two-year terms ending in June 2008. Due to term limits, Councilwoman Bilsten was not eligible to run for re-election creating a vacancy in the Chair position for the TPC. To fill this position until June 2008, in January 2008, the Regional Council approved the interim appointment of Mayor Hawker as the Chair of the TPC, leaving the Vice Chair position vacant. MAG has received a letter requesting that Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale, receive an interim appointment as Vice Chair to fill the unexpired term (June 2008). In June 2008, the Regional Council would then consider the TPC officer positions for a two year term. Please refer to the enclosed material.

### AIR QUALITY ITEMS

\*5H. Conformity Consultation

The Maricopa Association of Governments is conducting consultation on conformity assessments for an amendment and administrative modification to the FY 2008-2012 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and Regional Transportation Plan 2007 Update. The proposed amendment includes new transit projects for the City of Phoenix and a federally-funded pedestrian project for the Town of Gilbert. In addition, an administrative modification includes the repackaging of pre-design, design, and right-of-way projects for Maricopa County improvements to El Mirage Road and changes to the allocation of funding amounts for several City of Scottsdale intersection projects. The amendment includes projects that may be categorized as exempt and minor project revisions that do not require a conformity determination. Comments on the conformity assessments are requested by February 22, 2008. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5I. Resolution to Request the EPA to Provide Sufficient Time for Existing Measures to Take Effect in the Implementation of a More Stringent Eight-Hour Ozone Standard

5H. Consultation

5I. Adoption of a resolution to request the Environmental Protection Agency to provide sufficient time for existing measures to take effect in the implementation of a more stringent eight-hour ozone standard.

On July 11, 2007, the Environmental Protection Agency(EPA) published a proposed rulemaking to revise the eight-hour ozone standard to provide increased public health protection for children and other at risk populations. In Arizona, several business groups have indicated opposition to the adoption of a more stringent standard and have approached MAG regarding our position. As the regional air quality planning agency, MAG believes that it is important to protect public health. Over time, several aggressive measures have been adopted by the Arizona Legislature, local governments, and federal government which have been successful in eliminating violations of the current eight-hour ozone standard and prior one-hour ozone standard. It is important for EPA to place these measures in context with a more stringent standard. The attached resolution would request that EPA provide sufficient time for measures that have already been adopted to take effect in the implementation of a more stringent eight-hour ozone standard. On February 19, 2008, the Executive Committee recommended adoption of the resolution. Please refer to the enclosed material.

#### GENERAL ITEMS

\*5J. Social Services Block Grant Allocation Recommendations

Under a planning contract with the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), MAG annually researches and solicits input on human services needs in the region. The MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee develops recommendations for which services should be directed to meet these needs through the locally planned dollars under the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG). Services funded by SSBG include assistance to the most vulnerable people in the region, including very low-income children and families, elderly people, victims of domestic violence, homeless people and persons with disabilities. The MAG Human Services Technical Committee, the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee, and the MAG Management Committee recommended approval

5J. Approval of the SSBG allocation recommendations for FY 2008-2009 to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

of the SSBG allocation recommendations. Please refer to the enclosed material.

\*5K. Development of the FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Each year, the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget is developed in conjunction with member agency and public input. The Work Program is reviewed each year by the federal agencies in April and approved by the Regional Council in May. To provide an early start in developing the Work Program and Budget, this presentation is an overview of MAG's draft proposed new projects for the FY 2009 Work Program. The updated draft budget time line and estimated dues and assessments are included in the budget materials. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5K. Information.

\*5L. MAG Regional Economic Summary

Changes in a number of economic factors are having a significant impact on the level of activity and fiscal conditions on the State of Arizona and the region. Employment growth has slowed to about one percent, after growing by more than six percent the previous year. The State of Arizona's individual income tax collections are down about one percent year-to-date, with sales (transaction privilege) tax collections slightly down also. Overall, current estimates suggest that the State of Arizona has a shortfall between \$970 million to \$1.15 billion, or roughly 8.5 percent of the State budget. A report compiled by MAG highlights changing conditions in the economy, tax revenues, and commodity and labor costs related to public infrastructure projects. Please refer to the enclosed material.

5L. Information.

### ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

#### TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

6. Draft Revised MAG Highway Acceleration Policy

At the September 12, 2007 MAG Management Committee meeting, a working group of managers was formed to review and recommend

6. Adoption of the draft revised MAG Highway Acceleration Policy.



revisions to the MAG Highway Acceleration Policy. The working group met on December 5, 2007 and on January 30, 2008. At the January 30, 2008 meeting, the consensus of the working group was to move the draft revised MAG Highway Acceleration Policy forward for consideration and adoption by the Regional Council. The MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the draft revised policy. This item is on the February 20, 2008 agenda of the Transportation Policy Committee. An update will be provided on action taken by the Committee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. BQAZ Update and Schedule

In December 2007, the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) and the Regional Council received an update on the Building a Quality Arizona (BQAZ) planning effort. From these committees, MAG received direction to work cooperatively with the Arizona Department of Transportation and the other regional planning agencies on the framework studies and also to provide ADOT with information describing the transportation challenges facing this region. Staff will provide an update on the schedule to update the Regional Transportation Plan and describe the critical data elements that are needed regarding the transportation challenges facing Arizona. Please refer to the enclosed material.

7. Information and discussion.

### GENERAL ITEMS

8. Incarceration of Municipal Prisoners Stakeholders Group Update

On May 9, 2007, the MAG Management Committee formed a Stakeholders Group to examine the Maricopa County bookings and prisoner per diem rates and explore possible options to improve the current system. The Stakeholders Group has reviewed and discussed the recently completed Maricopa County's consultant report on the methodology for calculating the prisoner per diem and booking rates, as well as the other s and presentations. As part of this update, Maricopa County Finance staff and their consultant will review the FY 2009

8. Acceptance of the options developed by the Incarceration of Municipal Prisoners Stakeholders Group.

bookings and per diem rates and the findings of the consultant's report. The MAG Management Committee recommended acceptance of the options. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Update on Funding Issues for the MAG 9-1-1 System

The Emergency Telecommunications Services Revolving Fund was established to provide funding to public safety agencies for the purchase and maintenance of telephone equipment necessary to respond to emergency calls. In addition, the fund allocates three percent of the amount to administrative costs or fees for consultant services. (Of this, the State 9-1-1 Office receives two percent, and the MAG 9-1-1 Office shares one percent with the remainder of the state.) Due to the decrease in the monthly rate per phone line over the past three years (37 cents in 2006, 28 cents in 2007, and 20 cents in 2008), the administrative amount has also decreased. In the current legislative session, HB 2381 has been filed to increase the amount for administrative costs from three percent to five percent. This will allow the MAG 9-1-1 Office to retain the staff required for continuous updating of wireless mapping.

Another component of the region's emergency communications is the Community Emergency Notification System (CENS), which telephones residents with warnings and instructions about how they should react to emergency situations in their area. The fund, which has supported CENS since its inception, will be depleted by the end of FY 2008 (June 30, 2008). Both the MAG 9-1-1 PSAP Managers and the MAG 9-1-1 Oversight Team have indicated their support for continuing the CENS program.

On February 13, 2008, the MAG Management Committee recommended support of legislation to increase the percentage allowed for administrative costs from three to five percent and to encourage the Legislature to provide a permanent funding source to continue the Community Emergency Notification System. Please refer to the enclosed material.

9. Support of legislation to increase the percentage allowed for administrative costs from three to five percent and to encourage the Legislature to provide a permanent funding source to continue the Community Emergency Notification System.

**10. Legislative Update**

An update will be provided on legislative issues of interest. Please refer to the enclosed material.

**11. Comments from the Council**

An opportunity will be provided for Regional Council members to present a brief summary of current events. The Regional Council is not allowed to propose, discuss, deliberate or take action at the meeting on any matter in the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

10. Information, discussion and possible action.

11. Information.